

COUNTRY East Germany 25X1

TOPIC Werneuchen Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 22 April to 21 May 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1A DATE PREPARED 30 June 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 22 April and 21 May 1953, Werneuchen airfield was occupied by about 40 Il-28 and Uil-28 planes. There was air activity on 22, 23 and 24 April and on 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 May. Night flying was practiced on 23 April, and 6 and 19 May.

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2. Several AA gun emplacements, some of which were occupied by medium AA guns, were observed around the landing field.

3. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field between 12 and 22 May:

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12 May. A total of 36 to 38 Il-28s and Uil-28s were parked in front of the hangars and in the eastern section of the field. Throughout the day, local flying was practiced by a twin-engine Li-2 transport which remained aloft for 8 to 10 minutes. The plane had an olive drab paint and a red dot, about as large as the Soviet star, on the rudder assembly. There was a 6/10 overcast

at an altitude of about 1,500 meters and good visibility.
13 May. The weather was the same as on the preceding day. Throughout the morning, there was air activity by jet bombers which took off at intervals of about 1,500 meters. Shortly before the first plane was airborne, the next plane started taxiing. After the take-off, the planes assembled in wedge formations of three and flew over the clouds.

14 May. In the morning, individual jet bombers practiced flying. There was a 5/10 overcast at an altitude of about 1,000 meters and good visibility.

15 to 18 May. No air activity was observed at the field.

- 25X1 19 May. An Il-28 made local flights at first. Later, it flew at a very high altitude under the clouds. There was a 1/10 overcast at an altitude of 8,000 to 10,000 meters and very good visibility. Between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., night flying was practiced, while three searchlights along the western side of the runway were in operation. The searchlights were switched off when a plane touched ground. During air activity, source observed the following lamps: 2 red ones at the western end of the runway, 7 white ones, 2 green ones and again 2 white ones on either side of the runway.

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22 May. After 5 a.m., there was air activity by 5 to 6 jet bombers including an Uil-28

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pass through the gates of the hangars. However, [redacted] the Ii-2s and biplanes stationed at the field were parked in the hangars.¹

4. Source made the following observations at the fuel dump:
- 16 May. A two-axle tank car was detached from a freight train, which arrived from the direction of Wriezen at noon, and dispatched to the fuel dump on the northern edge of the field.
- 19 May. Nine two-axle tank cars arrived with the freight train at noon and later were shunted to the field.
- 20 May. Four two-axle tank cars were observed east of the hangars, where another fuel dump was probably located as tank cars had been repeatedly observed there.
- 21 May. Thirteen empty tank cars left with the train for Wriezen. At the same time, four tank cars were observed near the railroad barrier not far from the northern fuel dump. Six to 7 fuel containers previously observed along the highway to Freienwalde were believed to be placed underground as a dredger was observed nearby. The dredger, however, was now observed near the spur track ready for shipment.²

5. It was rumored in Werneuchen that construction work at the airfield was to be completed about 1 June and that no civilian workers were allowed to stay there after that date.³

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6. On 18 May, about 600 air force soldiers were observed in groups of 60 to 80 men on the highway to Freienwalde. Shortly after 4 p.m., they dispersed and searched the surroundings of the field under the supervision of an officer [redacted] the search was made for four Soviet soldiers three of whom were allegedly found completely drunk.

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1. [redacted] Comment. Werneuchen airfield is occupied by two bomber regiments each equipped with about 18 Ii-28s each. [redacted]
2. [redacted] Comment. The airfield is equipped with two fuel dumps, one just north of the middle section of the northern taxiway and one in the southern section southeast of the barracks area. Each dump has a capacity of about 1,000 cubic meters.
3. [redacted] Comment. Work done by the laborers included construction work on the northern fuel dump and clearing work on the field.

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